



Extensions from DAT to PRM

Support Notes

This support notes are suitable for:

- MYOB Accounting
- MYOB Premier
- MYOB Premier Plus

Introduction

When attempting to upgrade an MYOB Accounting Version 14 company file or earlier to Premier 8 or earlier using the Conversion Assistant, an error may appear stating that this is a Dead Beta File. This message appears as Version 14 and Premier 8 were written in the same code and share the same file structure, therefore the file does not need to be converted.

The only difference between the two programs is the extension of the company file. MYOB Accounting has the format: 'filename.dat' whereas Premier has the format: 'filename.prm'. This support note will provide the outline in changing the file extension in order for the Version 14 file to be suitable for use in Premier 8 or vice versa.

NOTE: If a file has been activated to allow for Multiple Currency in Premier it cannot be downgraded and used again in Version 11 of MYOB Accounting.

How do I convert my data file from .dat to .prm?

To convert your data file from a .dat to .prm, you will need to perform the following steps:

- Open Windows Explorer.
- Make sure that you can see the file extensions.
- Rename the data file.

Step 1 - Accessing Windows Explorer

In order to change a file extension you must open Windows Explorer. To do this in Windows 2000, go to **Start** choose **Programs** and click **Windows Explorer**. In Windows 2000 or Windows ME, go to **Start** choose **Programs** then **Accessories** and **Windows Explorer**.

Step 2 - Check to see that File Extensions are enabled

In order to change the file extension from *.dat to *.prm, file extensions need to be visible. If your file is in the format '*filename*' then the extensions are hidden. The file format in view needs to be '*filename.dat*'

NOTE: If you already have the extensions showing and your data file is visible in the same format required above then proceed to Step 3.

To enable the display of extensions, from **Windows Explorer** highlight your data file by clicking it once then select **View** from the Toolbar or **Tools** on Windows 2000 as show below:

Win 95/98:	View -> Folder Options
Win NT:	View -> Options
Win 2000:	Tools -> Options
Win XP:	Tools -> Folder Options

Once the **Folder Options** are displayed, make sure the option labeled **Hide File Extensions for known file types** (Win 98/2000) is not selected. If using Windows 95/NT the option is labelled **Hide MS DOS file extensions for files types that are registered**.

With the extensions now revealed, you can then return back to the main view of Windows Explorer.

Having selected the data file in the MYOB folder, the filename should now be displayed in the format '*filename.dat*' as opposed to '*filename*'.

Step 3 - Rename the data file

Click the data file once so that it is selected, then go to the **File** menu and choose **Rename**. Change the file extension to the new extension *.PRM so it will function in Premier. Press ENTER once you have changed the DAT to read PRM.

The file will now be in the format '*filename.prm*' and ready for use in MYOB Premier.